

Tom was born and raised Ashtabula, Ohio. He graduated from Westlake High School and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in broadcast journalism from Northwestern University. During his last year at Northwestern, Tom worked as a radio correspondent covering Watergate for WMAQ in Chicago.

Before returning to his hometown of Cleveland, Tom worked as an anchor/reporter for WDTN and WLWD TV in Dayton, Ohio for four years. He has been working for WKYC in Cleveland since July 1979 and is the longest tenured reporter with one station in the City of Cleveland. He worked for many years as a general assignment reporter before being promoted to senior political reporter in May of 1998. Throughout his career Tom has garnered several awards including the Best Broadcast Writing award from the Ohio Associated Press in 1984 and three local Emmys. His 1989 Emmy for Investigative Reporting was for his coverage of ticket abuse by Cleveland police officers.

In addition to his storied career with WKYC, for the past eight years Tom has hosted the political discussion show, *Between the Lines*. He has moderated countless local and state wide political debates. Tom is on the Board of Directors for the local chapter of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and Camp Ho Mita Koda, a camp for diabetic children. He has also served on the boards of the Diabetes Association of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating WKYC's Mr. Tom Beres as the Press Club of Cleveland inducts him into the Cleveland Journalism Hall of Fame, Class of 2011.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 808 I had district work that required my presence. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING THE BRIDGE, INC.

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Bridge, Inc. located in Caldwell, Essex County, New Jersey on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The Bridge, Inc. is a private, nonprofit, community agency that has been helping children and families in the Essex County area since 1971 regardless of their ability to pay. All services are designed to strengthen and support the family and promote the personal growth of children, adolescents, adults and seniors.

The Bridge offers a variety of high quality, cost effective, professional mental health and addiction assessment and treatment services. Every day it works with individuals and families facing marital problems, parent/child conflicts, grief and loss, depression, anxiety, substance abuse and more.

The Bridge's compassionate staff is always ready and willing to assist those in need of help. Among the programs they offer are counseling services, adult and adolescent substance abuse services, school based substance abuse services, family crisis intervention counseling and the Family Preservation Program. Through its school based substance abuse services, The Bridge offers primary prevention/early intervention services to contacting local schools as a first defense to substance abuse.

Also offered, is a unique women's service called Stepping Stones, Women's Addiction Services. This program is an intensive outpatient service aimed at empowering women to take control of their lives and plan for their futures. Through the use of continuing care groups, women are counseled on parenting skills, healthy relationships and how to deal with their addictions, giving them the first steps to a healthier lifestyle.

For the past 40 years, The Bridge, Inc. has dedicated itself to the prevention and care of those struggling with a wide range of mental health and addiction issues. I commend the caring staff for their unwavering support to those in need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating The Bridge, Inc. on its 40th anniversary.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF MICHELE DASCHBACH FAST

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Michele Daschbach Fast who entered into eternal life on October 12, 2011, at the young and vital age of 47. A brutal, senseless act took the life of this beautiful, loving, talented and selfless wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt and friend.

Michele was blessed with extraordinary qualities, and she blessed everyone in her life in return. She was generous and loving, welcoming and joyful, a sports fan, a swimmer, a tennis player, a Giants fan and the most ardent supporter of the sports teams of her family and her wide circle of friends. She was quick, clever, and had a great sense of humor and she will never be forgotten.

Michele leaves her devoted husband of 24 years, Patrick, and her three beloved children, Patrick, 20, Laura, 18, and Lisa, 16. She also leaves her parents Leonore and Howard Daschbach of Atherton, and her brothers and sisters, Mark Daschbach, Rooney Daschbach, Laura Pitchford, LeeLee Cusenza, and Lisa Fuerst, as well as her faithful companion, Otis, a Black Labrador. Michele also played a wonderful, enthusiastic role in the lives of her many nieces and nephews, in-laws, scores of friends and the entire community of Seal Beach, California.

I am privileged to have known the Daschbach family for many decades. They are deeply faith filled and one of the most respected families in our community. May their faith, and the love and support of so many be sources of comfort to them during the difficult days ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring Michele Daschbach Fast's life, and extend our deepest condolences to her entire family.

VETERANS CO-OP HOUSING

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, as we honor and thank all who bravely served in the United States Armed Forces on Veterans Day, we also must ensure that our returning veterans can fully use programs that aid veterans' homeownership. Across the U.S., there are more than 1.2 million families of all income levels in homes owned and operated through cooperative associations. In New York City, co-ops make up about one-third of the housing stock and are often a less expensive option than condo units.

In 2006, Congress passed legislation I authored allowing veterans to use the Veterans Affairs' (VA) Home Loan Guaranty Program to purchase cooperative housing using their low interest loan benefits. These loan benefits allow veterans to buy homes with no down payment and limited closing costs. However, the program to allow loans for co-op housing will sunset at the end of 2011. In order to allow our nation's veterans to use the VA loan for all forms of home ownership, I am reintroducing legislation that would permanently extend the co-op program. To ensure that veterans are aware they can utilize the loans for co-op housing units, we have added a provision so that the Secretary of the VA can advertise the program to eligible veterans, participating lenders, and interested realtors.

By permanently extending these VA loan benefits to include co-ops, we can honor and thank all who bravely served in our Armed Forces by giving them the tools and resources they need to pursue their dreams of homeownership wherever they live.

Thank you to original cosponsors Reps. EDOLPHUS TOWNS, LAURA RICHARDSON, CHARLES RANGEL, JERROLD NADLER, and JESSE JACKSON, JR.

HONORING THE ST. ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL LADY HORNETS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2011

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the St. Elizabeth High School Lady Hornets Softball team for winning the Class 1 Missouri State Championship on October 22, 2011.

The young women and their coaches should be commended for all their hard work throughout the regular season and for bringing home the state softball championship to their school and community. In their final championship game against the Jefferson Eagles, every team member made important contributions that led to their 5-2 win.